news

FOR RELEASE:
Jan. 22, 1980
C 3150-7
Building
Permits

P-21 No. 7

RECEIVED
JAN 31 1980

BUILDING PERMITS IN 200 LARGEST CITIES RESUME TREND ABOVE PREVIOUS YEAR

NEW YORK, January 22 - - After levelling off in the preceding month, building permits issued in the 200 largest cities slipped 3.3 per cent to $2,680,322,050 in July from $2,773,160,539 in June, reports Dun & Bradstreet. While this was the smallest volume in three months it exceeded by 12.9 per cent the $2,374,622,719 in July a year earlier, resuming the path above '78 levels that prevailed with only one exception through the first seven months of 1979.

Builders in the 199 cities outside New York were issued permits valued at $2,562,548,288, a dip of 3.4 per cent from $2,681,583,154 in the previous month. A steep drop in Houston along with substantial decreases in Los Angeles, Pittsburgh, New Orleans, Dallas and Oklahoma City triggered the downturn between June and July. There were, however, some contrasting and sizeable increases in Chicago, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Atlanta and Davenport. Compared with the like month of 1978 a 17.3 per cent climb in permit issuances prevailed. Contrary downward pulls were noted in Indianapolis and Los Angeles.

Plans filed by New York City builders sagged 3.1 per cent to $117,773,762 in July from $121,577,385 in the preceding month but still the second largest amount in a twelve-month span. Nonetheless, New York's plans fell 37.7 per cent below the $189,175,063 filings in the year-earlier July which had marked a five-year peak for the city.

During the first seven months of 1979, an aggregate of $16,624,135,993 permits were issued builders in the 200 biggest cities, 10.6 per cent more than $15,007,278,537 issued in the similar period of 1978. Exceptionally steep climbs occurred in Atlanta, Washington, D.C., Houston and New Orleans. Measured by dollar totals, Houston remained at the top of the list, followed by Los Angeles, Dallas and New York. Chicago moved ahead of Phoenix to fifth place.

# # #

2. JULY BUILDING PERMIT VALUES

MONTHLY TOTAL OF BUILDING PERMITS IN 200 LARGEST CITIES
1976 - 1979

	1979	1978	1977	1976
January.....	$ 1,746,778,126	$ 1,555,200,317	$ 1,155,317,475	$ 1,094,555,899
February.....	1,717,789,184	1,566,122,444	1,346,506,159	1,017,644,026
March.....	2,476,939,618	2,181,040,038	1,831,077,441	1,298,836,652
April.....	2,451,179,009	1,970,502,609	1,670,684,353	1,418,036,240
May.....	2,777,967,467	2,184,409,484	1,848,109,958	1,359,299,738
June.....	2,773,160,539	3,175,380,926	2,112,508,861	1,513,262,913
July.....	2,680,322,050	2,374,622,719	1,786,583,619	1,391,463,324
August.....		2,096,290,105	1,983,733,131	1,622,806,467
September....		2.197,718,509	1,720,913,053	1,456,079,039
October.....		2,305,383,414	1,802,807,510	1,311,459,333
November.....		2,050,242,106	1,827,177,094	1,327,938,877
December.....		1,809,134,416	1,908,713,368	1,387,900,565
Total.....	$	$25,466,047,087	$20,994,132,022	$16,199,283,073

R - Revised

Of the 200 cities included in this series the twenty-five with the largest building permit values for the first seven months of 1979 were:

(Millions of Dollars)

		Seven Months 1979	% Change Previous Year
1.	Houston, Texas.....	1405.0	+ 54.9
2.	Los Angeles, California.....	909.5	+ 5.7
3.	Dallas, Texas.....	605.8	+ 19.8
4.	New York, New York.....	498.0	+ 17.9
5.	Chicago, Illinois.....	438.1	+ 34.9
6.	Phoenix, Arizona.....	408.6	+ 24.8
7.	San Diego, California.....	325.5	- 33.2
8.	Atlanta, Georgia.....	316.3	+ 123.3
9.	Honolulu, Hawaii.....	269.2	+ 37.6
10.	San Jose, California.....	259.5	+ 18.5
11.	Austin, Texas.....	254.7	+ 21.2
12.	Seattle, Washington.....	225.5	+ 36.8
13.	San Antonio, Texas.....	196.0	+ 33.9
14.	New Orleans, Louisiana.....	191.8	+ 44.8
15.	San Francisco, California.....	190.2	- 45.4
16.	Columbus, Ohio.....	190.0	- 38.1
17.	Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.....	189.9	+ 6.1
18.	Indianapolis, Indiana.....	188.6	- 51.1
19.	Fort Worth, Texas.....	184.6	+ 21.1
20.	Arlington, Texas.....	180.5	+ 9.8
21.	Albuquerque, New Mexico.....	177.0	+ 16.3
22.	Denver, Colardo.....	176.9	+ 11.6
23.	Washington, D.C.....	175.6	+ 80.9
24.	Sacramento, California.....	174.6	+ 28.9
25.	Nashville, Tennesee.....	171.7	+ 17.0

THE FOLLOWING TABLE GIVES MONTHLY BUILDING PERMIT VALUES FOR THE 200 LARGEST CITIES BY POPULATION AS RECORDED IN THE 1970 CENSUS. THE FIGURES REPRESENT ESTIMATED BUILDING COSTS UNDER PERMITS ISSUED TO PROSPECTIVE BUILDERS WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITIES ENUMERATED. THEY INCLUDE NEW RESIDENTIAL AND NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS, AS WELL AS ADDITIONS, ALTERATIONS AND REPAIRS. LAND COSTS ARE NOT INCLUDED. THE DATE ARE COMPILED FROM REPORTS FURNISHED TO DUN & BRADSTREET BY THE BUILDING DEPARTMENTS OF THE VARIOUS CITIES.

RANK BY SIZE		JULY 1979	SEVEN MONTHS 1979	SEVEN MONTHS 1978
1.	NEW YORK, NEW YORK*			
	MANHATTAN	20,851,350	234,518,081	263,929,790
	BRONX	22,402,525	35,229,033	41,778,540
	BROOKLYN	57,681,060	93,784,270	52,144,653
	QUEENS	9,117,275	62,366,885	22,022,178
	RICHMOND	7,721,602	72,093,038	42,512,080
	TOTAL NEW YORK CITY	117,773,762	497,992,171	422,387,231
2.	CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	113,535,253	438,122,172	324,883,871
3.	LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA	131,302,694	909,483,764	860,146,298
4.	PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA	34,590,615	138,533,903	120,872,673
5.	DETROIT MICHIGAN	7,985,605	111,952,771	103,426,963
6.	HOUSTON, TEXAS	125,292,523	1,405,049,444	906,885,157
7.	BALTIMORE, MARYLAND	18,416,135	86,815,429	169,727,016
8.	DALLAS, TEXAS	84,868,758	605,821,424	505,850,755
9.	WASHINGTON, D. C.	33,117,581	175,641,106	97,090,704
10.	CLEVELAND, OHIO	5,395,277	59,934,028	40,197,092
11.	INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA	31,003,467	188,642,708	385,765,560
12.	MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN	8,435,616	86,505,322	88,058,740
13.	SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA	55,099,071	190,182,342	348,264,488
14.	SAN DIEGO, CLAIFORNIA	62,502,074	325,485,752	487,363,932
15.	SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS	24,986,355	195,993,568	146,401,551
16.	BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS	28,047,000	171,341,237	104,602,500
17.	MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE	20,175,938	114,430,557	102,459,544
18.	ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI	8,784,273	51,325,438	55,274,119
19.	NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA	13,374,302	191,772,104	132,484,809
20.	PHOENIX, ARIZONA	57,181,399	408,643,151	327,490,307
21.	COLUMBUS, OHIO	25,926,389	190,038,506	308,871,153
22.	SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	30,494,353	225,455,019	164,823,016
23.	JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA	14,794,968	113,805,630	140,294,541
24.	PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA	6,422,798	85,329,087	38,950,516
25.	DENVER, COLORADO	17,592,848	158,938,950	158,540,987
26.	KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI	20,891,172	104,402,524	90,420,039
27.	ATLANTA, GEORGIA	86,065,414	316,292,239	141,656,126
28.	BUFFALO, NEW YORK	2,110,054	17,310,369	12,440,199
29.	CINCINNATI, OHIO	12,164,347	92,325,123	97,493,298
30.	NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE	45,496,731	171,650,601	146,733,200
31.	SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA	51,845,998	259,531,678	218,998,680
32.	MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA	21,261,203	158,050,567	137,988,001
33.	FORT WORTH, TEXAS	52,702,497	184,639,574	152,434,031
34.	TOLEDO, OHIO	6,101,017	62,552,720	52,208,704
35.	PORTLAND, OREGON	18,954,885	145,849,511	135,227,960
36.	NEWARK, NEW JERSEY	1,842,750	15,948,215	13,301,452
37.	OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA	24,933,701	188,869,304	178,974,541
38.	OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA	7,712,425	53,776,746	89,155,861
39.	LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY	2,289,858	20,771,764	48,679,836
40.	LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA	5,883,015	62,561,387	44,839,145
41.	OMAHA, NEBRASKA	10,818,831	77,423,359	49,961,756
42.	MIAMI, FLORIDA	18,924,200	92,097,273	43,660,041
43.	TULSA, OKLAHOMA	25,334,200	152,244,525	285,619,173
44.	HONOLULU, HAWAII	40,008,345	269,173,516	195,571,672
45.	EL PASO, TEXAS	15,770,015	127,182,958	137,040,646
46.	ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA	15,136,790	78,809,391	66,668,889
47.	NORFOLK, VIRGINIA	22,536,563	47,258,998	28,937,307
48.	BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA	13,006,851	69,344,903	72,389,008
49.	ROCHESTER, NEW YORK	2,631,391	17,048,974	20,419,212
50.	TAMPA, FLORIDA	7,495,794	49,000,994	41,619,491
51.	WICHITA, KANSAS	19,308,403	104,430,485	85,609,870
52.	AKRON, OHIO	3,266,815	24,946,947	26,699,244
53.	TUSCON, ARIZONA	20,222,434	123,558,838	76,199,415
54.	JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY	632,305	10,316,486	5,737,060
55.	SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA	29,278,994	174,587,938	135,443,414
56.	AUSTIN, TEXAS	29,977,000	254,696,141	210,186,635
57.	RICHMOND, VIRGINIA	3,523,216	27,332,572	29,248,419
58.	ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO	26,862,672	176,986,746	152,157,140
59.	DAYTON, OHIO	6,378,988	55,724,045	23,418,230
60.	CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA	11,080,854	79,028,802	83,584,896
61.	ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA	7,746,765	53,123,203	47,409,855
62.	CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS	18,953,588	106,695,365	72,282,823
63.	YONKERS, NEW YORK	682,000	8,464,898	14,272,021
64.	DES MOINES, IOWA	16,834,628	62,841,671	36,269,756
65.	GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN	4,919,811	26,159,614	18,774,149
66.	SYRACUSE, NEW YORK	450,655	36,960,314	15,321,475
67.	FLINT, MICHIGAN	10,873,979	31,161,712	26,606,691
68.	MOBILE, ALABAMA	4,123,178	53,264,731	55,046,916
69.	SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA	14,281,938	70,875,915	149,679,515
70.	WARREN, MICHIGAN	797,883	4,552,553	9,971,145
71.	PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND	2,611,560	17,133,435	19,290,850
72.	FORT WAYNE, INDIANA	8,217,655	40,442,968	63,080,238
73.	WORCHESTER, MASSACHUSETTS	2,086,101	9,250,961	10,942,485
74.	SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH	18,860,102	89,232,682	54,157,318
75.	GARY, INDIANA	1,711,079	12,426,614	6,180,690
76.	KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE	5,040,237	46,410,496	92,453,373
77.	MADISON, WISCONSIN	4,809,388	40,221,870	45,684,638
78.	VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA	27,115,734	153,949,518	163,728,989
79.	SPOKANE, WASHINGTON	12,441,061	96,755,795	65,913,428
80.	KANSAS CITY, KANSAS	9,989,600	38,546,344	55,423,142
81.	ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA	8,467,595	61,172,466	102,480,978
82.	FRESNO, CALIFORNIA	18,249,317	140,635,129	123,679,691
83.	BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA	19,162,541	98,939,703	90,749,226
84.	SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS	1,199,622	38,182,299	11,339,911
85.	HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT	5,169,763	30,109,190	33,758,500
86.	SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA	3,473,311	54,813,444	62,726,169
87.	BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT	3,023,053	11,434,985	7,714,827
88.	TACOMA, WASHINGTON	10,758,213	70,933,854	43,576,645
89.	COLUMBUS, GEORGIA	3,578,857	30,182,372	42,904,655
90.	JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI	5,206,460	45,654,920	65,197,577
91.	LINCOLN, NEBRASKA	7,251,964	45,742,477	33,532,578
92.	LUBBOCK, TEXAS	11,147,301	63,257,270	79,094,479
93.	ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS	11,052,454	33,215,778	22,836,169
94.	PATERSON, NEW JERSEY	710,121	8,925,050	8,613,787
95.	GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA	7,514,526	42,046,856	47,322,541
96.	RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA	4,181,236	42,274,602	29,168,045
97.	YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO	1,231,727	5,892,758	8,709,848
98.	FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA	5,790,315	56,682,345	34,684,888
99.	EVANSVILLE, INDIANA	3,449,658	15,156,461	24,058,456
100.	NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA	5,542,468	33,441,781	29,302,159
101.	HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA	6,892,861	40,948,985	41,693,643
102.	NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT	772,351	8,264,195	12,740,359
103.	COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO	17,655,636	121,606,619	139,288,564
104.	TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA	4,423,465	22,800,870	28,080,060
105.	MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA	5,045,500	62,449,500	58,108,400
106.	WINSTON-SALEM, NO. CAR	4,287,820	35,607,993	43,857,975
107.	GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA	7,209,778	64,438,317	58,741,202
108.	LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS	15,114,396	77,825,538	57,187,003
109.	LANSING, MICHIGAN	4,864,840	40,352,792	23,506,963
110.	ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA	1,332,970	12,691,080	9,248,529
111.	AMARILLO, TEXAS	6,845,497	48,174,191	78,315,434
112.	PEORIA, ILLINOIS	3,784,015	32,480,859	36,136,777
113.	LAS VEGAS, NEVADA	20,665,759	137,006,771	98,701,166
114.	SOUTH BEND, INDIANA	4,400,230	31,068,685	14,418,816
115.	TOPEKA, KANSAS	6,564,798	25,520,866	22,273,922
116.	GARDEN GROVE, CALIFORNIA	8,464,487	34,063,629	40,007,464
117.	MACON, GEORGIA	3,495,163	36,719,344	24,364,388
118.	RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA	13,209,836	75,579,106	75,195,718
119.	HAMPTON, VIRGINIA	8,356,536	22,335,014	25,975,769
120.	SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI	5,101,288	49,984,726	50,089,216
121.	CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE	10,341,592	45,621,354	54,512,809
122.	SAVANNAH, GEORGIA	2,414,083	25,407,615	5,436,402
123.	BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA	4,223,148	20,154,733	9,757,133
124.	HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA	9,627,654	44,417,617	86,939,953
125.	BEAUMONT, TEXAS	7,622,292	47,574,226	45,641,035
126.	ALBANY, NEW YORK	3,290,867	10,696,832	8,135,185
127.	COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA	1,771,808	11,040,330	25,100,936
128.	PASADENA, CALIFORNIA	5,385,655	45,419,928	40,463,952
129.	ELIZABETH, NEW JERSEY	1,086,959	3,755,039	4,844,067
130.	INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI	3,331,824	20,100,122	15,228,315
131.	PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA	1,769,419	14,717,787	13,466,145
132.	ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA	12,965,379	61,967,383	39,551,507
133.	CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA	8,732,347	41,778,794	41,790,910
134.	LIVONIA, MICHIGAN	27,393,298	63,701,619	56,739,445
135.	CANTON, OHIO	4,459,467	22,172,089	13,887,602
136.	ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA	2,905,318	11,660,340	14,399,120
137.	STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT	5,852,600	124,347,353	30,071,992
138.	LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY	9,187,306	76,334,339	85,929,706
139.	WATERBURY, CONNECTICUT	2,177,145	8,038,144	7,255,360
140.	HAMMOND, INDIANA	408,138	25,893,817	4,914,007
141.	STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA	19,442,740	95,472,937	91,554,501
142.	HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA	7,216,867	59,396,746	48,674,266
143.	TRENTON, NEW JERSEY	1,351,249	4,078,561	3,953,454
144.	SAN BERNARDINO, CALIFORNIA	8,710,536	42,514,065	43,843,024
145.	DEARBORN, MICHIGAN	3,253,931	72,470,656	33,102,978
146.	SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA	1,216,008	4,918,769	11,104,937
147.	CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY	775,535	2,448,246	15,970,795
148.	HIALEAH, FLORIDA	4,488,473	32,538,156	10,287,093
149.	NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS	730,640	6,932,307	6,003,674
150.	FREEMONT, CALIFORNIA	9,317,600	119,881,900	96,182,100
151.	DULUTH, MINNESOTA	2,285,173	14,944,296	12,589,974
152.	CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS	6,393,898	21,697,121	12,123,080
153.	PARMA, OHIO	1,108,600	19,074,450	9,280,550
154.	ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN	1,134,363	19,348,818	31,533,461
155.	ORLANDO, FLORIDA	3,228,526	43,122,429	31,083,968
156.	DAVENPORT, IOWA	33,005,082	56,465,722	29,271,573
157.	WICHITA FALLS, TEXAS	19,694,029	84,195,660	25,160,099
158.	PUEBLO, COLORADO	2,883,646	25,134,867	20,084,242
159.	IRVING, TEXAS	7,291,833	54,741,514	32,952,122
160.	FALL RIVER, MASSACHUSETTS	96,450	2,248,139	2,667,130
161.	DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA	2,440,552	33,053,863	25,390,265
162.	SUNNYVALE, CALIFORNIA	18,496,389	66,133,271	88,549,425
163.	WACO, TEXAS	7,009,822	58,595,915	27,542,218
164.	RACINE, WISCONSIN	2,463,413	12,946,759	8,001,357
165.	LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS	634,765	16,781,200	19,723,135
166.	HAYWARD, CALIFORNIA	8,186,725	49,814,818	52,844,436
167.	LAKEWOOD, COLORADO	4,519,462	43,144,724	43,369,806
168.	ROANOKE, VIRGINIA	6,194,457	16,950,723	14,083,468
169.	SAGINAW, MICHIGAN	1,348,444	7,544,375	6,461,646
170.	NORWALK, CALIFORNIA	1,021,030	4,386,290	8,160,970
171.	SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS	17,053,302	41,394,849	23,702,358
172.	UTICA, NEW YORK	494,220	5,658,888	3,528,745
173.	NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS	665,784	7,351,404	8,791,771
174.	ARLINGTON, TEXAS	29,913,997	180,452,197	164,283,402
175.	DECATUR, ILLENOIS	2,158,451	19,591,327	25,459,517
176.	LYNN, MASSACHUSETTS	804,140	6,992,896	4,280,672
177.	INGLEWOOD, CALIFORNIA	2,494,000	13,353,473	13,031,762
178.	ABILENE, TEXAS	6,840,256	38,517,498	58,540,431
179.	CHESAPEAKE, VIRGINIA	5,675,484	51,484,257	42,279,443
180.	PASADENA, TEXAS	12,223,392	44,761,293	45,211,651
181.	BROCKTON, MASSACHUSETTS	782,745	10,785,441	11,062,729
182.	BURBANK, CALIFORNIA	2,653,943	41,770,448	22,807,974
183.	SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS	259,634	2,516,221	3,297,746
184.	DOWNEY, CALIFORNIA	1,130,934	15,476,718	14,116,181
185.	SANTA MONICA, CALIFORNIA	16,666,162	61,850,471	40,376,488
186.	ST. CLAIR SHORES, MICH	528,400	2,902,200	2,883,700
187.	QUINCY, MASSACHUSETTS	670,056	6,222,584	4,449,005
188.	GREEN BAY, WISCONSIN	19,845,059	42,122,911	22,854,364
189.	MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE	6,431,924	23,239,888	25,388,614
190.	SANTA CLARA, CALIFORNIA	7,258,736	58,603,076	102,580,726
191.	READING, PENNSYLVANIA	736,416	3,535,450	6,666,515
192.	POMONA, CALIFORNIA	7,995,875	54,442,215	25,680,855
193.	MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA	950,234	28,582,709	22,862,685
194.	WESTLAND, MICHIGAN	3,111,178	10,650,004	4,581,785
195.	SIOUX CITY, IOWA	1,116,923	17,747,175	10,454,502
196.	FULLERTON, CALIFORNIA	3,380,725	27,107,114	62,600,020
197.	NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK	354,033	4,873,443	51,100,795
198.	KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN	1,148,734	16,605,047	13,404,379
199.	ROYAL OAK, MICHIGAN	614,700	6,229,280	5,291,650
200.	PONTIAC, MICHIGAN	1,866,923	40,226,188	9,566,024
	TOTALS: 200 LARGEST CITIES Listed Above	2,680,322,050	16,624,135,993	15,007,278,532

P = Preliminary
R = Revised